

## **Ecosystem Roundtable Minutes for June 19, 1998**

### **Roundtable Member and Liaison Attendance**

Steve Evans (FOR)  
Any Fowler (SCVWD)  
Greg Gartrell (CCWD)  
Dan Keppen (NCWA)  
Hari Modi (NCPA)  
Jason Peltier (CVPWA)  
Doug Wallace (EBMUD)  
David Yargas (EDF)  
Tom Zuckerman (CDWA)

Penny Howard (BOR)  
Karen Schwinn (USEPA)

### **May 1998 Proposal Solicitation Package Update**

One hundred and fifty people attended the June 2, 1998, Public Pre-Submittal Workshop for the May 1998 Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP). A question and answer document based on the workshop and other inquiries received by CALFED has been distributed to the PSP mailing list.

Technical Review Panels are being developed to review proposals under the nine topic areas.

Additionally, an Integration Panel is being developed to assist in the review process. Any comments or suggestions from Roundtable members should be forwarded to Rebecca Fawver at (916) 654-1334 or email [rebeccaf@water.ca.gov](mailto:rebeccaf@water.ca.gov) by July 1, 1998.

A question was raised on the process for final acceptance of the technical review panels. Also, a request was made for a list of the review panel members.

### **Implementation Issues**

State funding - Based on recent meetings regarding state funding, contracts with National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and between CALFED and non-state agencies can proceed at this time.

A question was raised regarding an evaluation of staffing given the current workload. Cindy Darling noted that a consultant has been secured to come in and do a full assessment (beginning July 1). It was suggested that the Needs Assessment Committee work closely with this consultant. It was requested that a copy of the consultants's qualifications be circulated.

Napa River Land Acquisition (M131) - The Bureau and applicant described the revised proposal changes on the South Napa River Wetlands Acquisition and Restoration Program. The Bureau of Reclamation will award \$1,000,000 for acquisition of 77 acres.

Request for Project Amendment - Since the new amendment process is not yet established, an amendment to Consumnes River Acquisitions (H307) was brought before the Roundtable. The Nature Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation Board requested a budget increase of \$310,000. The Roundtable recommended providing the additional funds given 1) if for some reason the McCormack-Williamson Tract becomes part of conveyance, then the money should be re-imbursed to ecosystem

restoration and 2) the project should not affect the selection of a long-term alternative outcome. The McCormack-Williamson Tract issue will be part of a subsequent Roundtable meeting.

Contract Amendment Process - Three Roundtable members are needed to sit on the subcommittee to consider amendments. Hari Modi, Doug Wallace, and Dave Yardas volunteered.

Tracking System - Pat Rivera of the Bureau of Reclamation presented a draft tracking system developed with the assistance of a couple Roundtable members. The purpose of the system is to provide a quick look at a project to see how it is progressing. A different format may be needed for different types of projects (e.g. restoration vs. acquisition). Pat will continue to work on the system with input from CALFED, NFWF, and the Roundtable and will provide a progress report at the next meeting.

Changes to Congressional Quarterly Report Format - A brief discussion ensued on how to improve the Quarterly Report Format to better exhibit the momentum behind the Restoration Coordination Program.

### **Funding for Prospect Island**

The partners in the Prospect Island restoration project have requested \$2 million dollars of Category III funding to repair levees on Prospect Island in the Delta to enable fish and wildlife habitat restoration. The Policy Group recommended this request be approved, given a favorable recommendation by the Roundtable.

The Roundtable recommended that \$300,000 be provided to begin repair of the Port Levee on Miner Slough. Concerns were raised regarding local landowners relations, seepage issues with an adjacent island, and estimated cost of constructing the project in the wet. It was agreed that these issues would be investigated, the issue would be brought before the Integration Panel, and an update would be provided at the next Roundtable meeting.

### **Restoration Fund Roundtable**

The next meeting of the Restoration Fund Roundtable is June 25<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30am. CVPIA managers would be providing a public update on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Coordination with CVPIA will be discussed at the next Ecosystem Roundtable meeting.

### **Development of FY 99 Priorities**

The proposed schedule and structure for regional meetings was presented. Time ran short and it was agreed this topic would be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

### **Remaining FY 98 Programs**

A one page summary was handed out describing the invasive species program.

Regarding water acquisition, the establishment of a reserve has been approved by the Policy Group and staff are working on an expanded program description.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Roundtable members from co-chairs reminding them about the importance of their participation in these meetings.

### **Next Meeting Dates**

July 17 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 - 1:00	August 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 - 1:00
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